

covered under the said scheme but the reply said on the table does not contain its answer. It has been said therein that they have asked the State Governments to allocate funds to the Gram Panchayats. The Minister may please also reply to it.

There are several rural areas in Maharashtra where water is supplied by tankers. By when drinking water would be provided to all those villages under drinking water supply scheme.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU : Sir, I have already given my answer. It is not scheme-wise and gram panchayat-wise. We are giving funds to the State Governments as per the requirements based on not-covered villages and partially-covered villages. So, the list is maintained by the State Governments only.

Drinking water is a State Government subject. We are giving more funds to achieve the targets. That is why scheme-wise and gram panchayat-wise figures are not available here. These figures are available with the State Governments.

However, they are sending the lists about the number of villages achieved by them. That is why I have given the figures of the total number of habitations. A village having a population of more than 250 persons is treated as one habitation. Based on that, we are allocating the funds to not-covered and partially-covered habitations to achieve the target by 2000 AD. That is why I have given it.

[Translation]

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : This matter should be discussed under Rule 193.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I agree that it is an important matter. You give a written notice.

SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, water and electricity are very important things. Therefore, this matter should be taken up under Rule 193.

SHRI SHRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter, it should be taken up under Rule 193.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I also agree that it is a very important matter, but you give a notice in writing.

SHRI SHRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : All right, we will give a notice in writing.

SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is no decorum in the House. You should maintain the decorum of the House.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Sometimes it happens so.

(Interruptions)

[English]

Allotment of Land to Slum Department

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*245. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI :
SHRI JAI PRAKASH (Hardoi) :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment has given instructions to the Delhi Development Authority to allot regularly the newly developed land to Slum Department of Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Slum Department of Delhi has not been able to put to proper use of land available with it and the houses constructed for the poor people have been rented out to others; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b) The Delhi Development Authority has been issued instructions on 29.1.1997 to supply 10% of the land developed by it in each residential scheme to the Slum and JJ Department of MCD at pre-determined rates for facilitating the relocation/resettlement of JJ dwellers.

(c) and (d) The Slum and JJ Department of MCD has reported that they have properly used the land available with it. No tenements constructed for the slum dwellers have been rented out, excepting using some of these tenements to meet social/educational needs of the people living in these JJ colonies. A few quarters have also been allotted to the employees of the MCD.

[Translation]

SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to tell the Government that this Government is committed for constructing the houses for the poor people living in Jhuggis. There are about 25 lac Jhuggi dwellers in Delhi at present they are engaged in sanitation work or are labourers. They live on the banks of drains and are exposed to mosquito bites. In regard to the reply given by the Minister that they have constructed so many houses, I have to say that no houses has been constructed. I would like to know whether there will be any proper utilization of the land provided to the societies by the D.D.A. Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to tell the Government, through you, that no person belonging to Scheduled Castes has been allocated house under the D.D.A. scheme of providing house for Rs. 50,000/- in Vasant Kunj. So, I want to ask the Minister whether the Government will

take action to resettle the people living in Jhuggis or slums or construct houses for them.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, this housing problem around Delhi particularly with regard to the slums is a very big problem. The problem has been perpetuated over several years. This has happened particularly due to migration of people from the surrounding areas to the city. It has now gone beyond control and the issue of migration has also remained unabated.

Sir, this question is related only to the dwelling units for the slum dwellers and the allotment of houses in Vasant Kunj and other areas does not fall within the purview of this particular question. As far as the questions on slum dwellers and JJ clusters are concerned, I would try to answer them and provide as many details as possible.

Sir, as far as the slum dwellers are concerned, the identified slums are as many as 1080 in this city. The slums which have been identified prior to the year 1991, in those cases, efforts are going on to relocate and resettle those slums to the extent possible.

The Government has adopted a three-pronged strategy to resettle the slum dwellers. This three-pronged strategy includes :

1. Where the JJ dwellers have been residing on a site prior to 31.1.1990 - referred to as "eligible" JJ dwellers - but these sites are urgently required by the land owning agency for the execution of a public project, these JJ dwellers are relocated elsewhere by providing them a serviced plot at an estimated cost of Rs. 44,000.
2. The Government is mainly pondering over an *in situ* upgradation of the JJ colony, where the land owning agency issues NOCs to Slum and JJ Department.
3. Only certain minimum basic civic amenities like water supply, sanitation and street lighting are provided in the JJ clusters.

[Translation]

SH. MANGAL RAM PREMI : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I want to ask how many Jhuggi dwellers have been resettled so far and how many remains to be resettled and by when they are likely to be provided plot in Delhi. Has the Minister detailed figures in this regard with him?

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : So far, 6194 slum dwellers have been relocated. As far as total number of slum dwellers are concerned, there are about five lakh slum dwellers' families which live in slums. About 25

lakh population is living in slums. The efforts are on. The Government of Delhi has recently appointed a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri Buch. The Committee is going into the problems of the slum dwellers and its report is likely to be with the Government by the end of this month. Once the report is there, further action will be pursued, with regard to the problems faced by the slum dwellers, in consultation with the State Government of Delhi.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, I have not received answers for question number 245 to 250.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : It is because there is no statement and the Minister is giving the answer. This is only the statement.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : In my question-answer set, there is no answer for question number 245 to 250. I would like to submit that they must not give it like this.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : The hon. Minister replies to the Starred Questions in the House but the statements attached with them are not read. The hon. member is new and perhaps he does not know it...(Interruptions)

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the reply of the Minister appears pleasant on papers. He has instructed the D.D.A. that in each residential scheme 10 per cent of land should be provided slum and J.J. department of D.D. on the prefixed rates but the problem is that D.D.A. in not developing land anywhere. Through you, I want to know the names of the places where D.D.A. propose to construct residential houses, and the places where residential scheme is proposed to be developed and the acreage of land to be developed under that out of which 10 per cent is to be provided to slum dwellers.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, realising the importance of the problem, the Government has very recently given instructions to DDA. The DDA has been given instructions to reserve 10 per cent area of the new settlements. As far as DDA is concerned, this instruction was given only on 29th January, 1997.

Prior to that, no specific allotment was being made by DDA to slum dwellers though certain colonies were made available by the JJ Department of DDA where 2,60,000 families were resettled. The latest instructions for 10 per cent reservation of area in all resettlements to be allotted to the slum dwellers were given only on 29th January, 1997. After that date actually no land has been given by DDA. As a matter of fact, after 1992, no land has been allotted in this particular scheme for slum dwellers.

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Minister is a very well-meaning Minister and he had given instructions to DDA to allot 10 per cent of the

land to slum dwellers. What I was saying was that DDA is not developing the land at all. From where will this 10 per cent land be allotted by them? I wanted to ask the Minister, in what residential colony, under which residential scheme DDA is developing land, and how many acres of land DDA is developing out of which 10 per cent will be given to JJ dwellers. The Minister has given instructions - that is all right, he did it because he is a well-meaning Minister - but, is DDA developing any land? If it is not, these instructions will remain on paper only. In the next three years, what is the plan of DDA?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The Minister will ensure the development.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to inform the hon. Member that these instructions to reserve 10 per cent of land were given only on the 29th January, 1997. This particular scheme of 10 per cent reservation has not been taken up so far. DDA is now identifying the land where 10 per cent reservation scheme can be taken up. In regard to information pertaining to earlier schemes, I have a long statement with me in which details of the land developed by the JJ Department, and the units constructed by them are given. I have that list with me. It is a very big list. I will pass on the list, giving the details of houses constructed and allotted to the hon. Member.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, J.J. Slum Improvement Scheme was formulated in Delhi under which the Central Government has asked the Government of Delhi to identify the localities of J.J. clusters and develop the land for resettling them there and providing them houses. The Government of India had also provided funds to the Govt. of Delhi for this. 56 such colonies were identified in Delhi where houses were to be provided to them after developing the land for which the Government of India had also provided funds to the Government of Delhi. I want to know from the hon. Minister what happened to those funds and how many people were resettled under the Scheme?

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as I know, they are still living there. Houses have not been constructed for them. Basic facilities have not been provided to them. There is neither a pavement nor electricity or water in their locality. If the Government really intend to help the poor and slum dwellers, it may be stated how Delhi Government has utilised the funds provided by the Union Government?

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, as I was time and again telling, addressing the problem of JJ clusters is not a very small problem. From time to time the problem of slum improvement is being addressed by the State

Governments as well as the Union Government to the extent possible. In several clusters, basic services like electricity and water had been provided. With regard to the specific case it... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please listen to the Minister.

[Translation]

SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, contrary to hon. Minister's claim, electricity and water is not available there. What the hon. Minister says is not correct. I can say with a challenge, if one can show electricity and water there, I am prepared to accept any sort of punishment.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Agarwalji, first of all let the hon. Minister complete his reply.

[English]

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : With regard to the specific case which the hon. Member is referring to, I will supply the information to him.

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Firstly, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there is no coordination between the Slum Wing of the Corporation because it is under the Corporation and the land where the slum dwellers have to be resettled which is under the Delhi Development Authority. In view of this lack of coordination, the consequent delays that take place and the consequent cost overruns, would the hon. Minister kindly consider handing over the DDA to the State Government particularly when the Central Government can be a party to which the hon. Minister belongs and the Common Minimum Programme is committed to what is called cooperative federalism? When it is cooperative federalism, why is he not giving even a local agency like the DDA to the State Government for a proper coordination between the land owning agency and the slum dwellers to avoid cost overruns it... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Hon. Members may please go to their seats.

(Interruptions)

SHRI JAG MOHAN : Secondly, will the Government of India which is owning the land where there are squatters, certify that these areas are the ones which are required by it for the next three years? Will the certificate be issued within a month or so to see that no shifting takes place from those places and to see that an effective improvement can be brought about by the Slum Department of the Municipal Corporation? These are two parts.

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Sir, with regard to the first part, that is, whether the DDA can be handed over to the State Government of Delhi, I would like to say that this is a question which has to be examined at length. The DDA was created by an Act of Parliament

as early as in 1957. This particular demand of handing over DDA to the Delhi Government is to be debated once again in Parliament since DDA itself has been created by an Act of Parliament. *Suo motu* at this particular point of time, I will not be in a position to give any answer to the hon. Member in regard to the handing over of the DDA to the Delhi Government...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAG MOHAN : The hon. Minister may read through the debate...*(Interruptions)*

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU : Shri Jag Mohan is a learned person and an hon. Member. Everyday we discuss the issue of Delhi among several other issues.

This particular issue requires a long debate.

With regard to the second part, we will certainly come up with a better coordination with the State Government of Delhi for addressing this problem once the Buch Committee gives its recommendations to the State Government of Delhi.

Exploration of Hydrocarbon

*246. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether experts committee have recommended single widow clearance for hydrocarbon resources utilisation to strengthen international cooperation in proper exploration and utilisation of hydrocarbon resources for economic advancement of all the countries;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government to the proposals made in this regard; and

(c) the details of action plan drawn up to facilitate greater global cooperation in the exploration of hydrocarbons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) Government is not aware of any such recommendations made by an "experts committee".

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to hike in production and drilling cost of Oil and Natural Gas Commission the expenditure is likely to increased and many companies are not agreed to renew rigs contract. It may affect our oil production. I would like to know as to the steps being taken by the Government in this regard so as to find out a lasting solution to this problem with international cooperation?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : Sir, to attract private investment the working Group of Petroleum sector for the formulation of Ninth Five Year Plan has recommended certain major fiscal incentives to secure participation by the private

sector in the exploration of oil and gas...*(Interruptions)* Some incentives in the reduction of cess and royalty; cess and royalty to be made and ad-valorem of oil and gas price not for a specific amount; withdrawal of customs duty on import-related to upstream operations; development of special package for exploration in the North-Eastern States; and exploration efforts to be treated at par with research and development infrastructure etc. for giving tax incentives.

[Translation]

SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to the wrong policies of the Government Kerosene is selling at Rs. 2.60 litre in rural areas and the rate is Rs. 10 per litre in the open market. Will any stren action be taken against those people who are selling kerosene at Rs. 10 per litre?

[English]

SHRI T.R. BAALU : The matter is under consideration. We will be coming to the point.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Prices of Petrol

*243. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is the only country where prices of diesel and petrol are not identical; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and the steps taken to rationalise these prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) :

(a) and (b) No Sir. According to the data available, the prices of Diesel (HSD) and Petrol (MS) are fixed differentially in various countries. The prices of these products in some of the countries are given below :

Prices of Diesel and Petrol in Various Countries

Prices in Local Currency/Litre

| Country | Currency | Diesel | Petrol | Differential (Percentage) |
|---------|----------|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Germany | Mark | 1.27 | 1.59 | 25.2 |
| France | Franc | 4.00 | 5.70 | 42.5 |
| Finland | Markka | 3.91 | 5.54 | 41.7 |
| Sweden | Sek | 6.70 | 8.21 | 22.5 |